
FY 2004 Performance Priorities for the Regions

AAship: OSWER

(1) Performance Priority: Cleanup

Superfund: The number of Superfund construction completions achieved each year receives significant attention on a national level. While we are moving forward with new measures that focus on environmental outcomes, such as groundwater migration and revitalized land, construction completions will continue to be a fundamental measure of the program's success. By presenting our construction completion accomplishments, we are able to report directly on our mandate to clean up sites listed on the National Priorities List (NPL).

RCRA Corrective Action Program: The RCRA Corrective Action (CA) Program continues to focus on controlling human exposures to contamination and controlling migration of contaminated groundwater at RCRA facilities. Progress toward meeting these outcomes is measured by the program's two environmental indicators. Commitment to our FY2005 GPRA CA goals of having human exposures controlled at 95% of the high priority RCRA CA facilities and migration of contaminated groundwater controlled at 70% of the high priority RCRA CA facilities remains one of our highest priorities.

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks: The number of Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) cleanups completed is an outcomes measure for the protection of human health and the environment. A LUST cleanup indicates the elimination of pathways for human exposures and migration of contaminants to groundwater have been met at a site. Achieving our cleanups completed goal measures how well the program protects human health and the environment.

Cleanup programs accomplishments to date include:

1. Completion of clean up construction at 846 out of 1,498 Superfund NPL sites through FY 2002:
 - Controlling human exposures to contamination at 1,018 RCRA facilities through November 1, 2002.
 - Controlling migration of contaminated groundwater at 875 RCRA facilities through November 1, 2002.
 - Completion of 284,602 cleanups of confirmed releases from Federally-regulated LUSTs since 1987.

Performance Expectations for Regions:

Superfund: The Agency's construction completion goal for FY 2004 is 40. The FY 2004 budget includes an increase of \$150 million for Superfund. The additional resources will enable EPA to initiate 10 to 15 new construction projects, which will

result in additional construction completions starting in FY 2005. We will continue to leverage the initiation of construction by potentially responsible parties, including other Federal agencies. Regions should continue to make achieving construction completion a top priority.

RCRA: For FY2004, the Agency has set RCRA goals of 180 additional facilities at which human exposures will be controlled and 150 facilities at which migration of contaminated groundwater will be controlled.

LUST: The Agency has set a goal of 21,000 cleanups completed for FY2004. Regions should continue working with their states to make achieving this goal a top priority.

The Agency will continue to work to harmonize its cleanup programs through the One Cleanup Program initiative.

(2) Performance Priority: Revitalization/Brownfields

The Agency is moving in a new strategic direction with the broad promotion of the successes of the Brownfields program, Department of Defense's (DOD) Base Closure program and other waste programs in restoring contaminated lands. Revitalization complements the Agency's traditional cleanup programs, leading to faster, more efficient cleanups; and benefits communities through productive economic and green space reuse of properties.

- The Brownfields program has reported significant economic accomplishments through FY 2001, generating nearly 20,000 jobs and leveraging \$4.1 billion.
- While the RCRA Corrective Action, LUST and Superfund Programs have traditionally focused on site cleanup, these programs also are furthering efforts to make sites available for reuse and redevelopment.

Performance Expectations for Regions: OSWER is developing outcome revitalization measures for reuse, and, in FY 2005, will report land available for use or reuse across OSWER's programs. In FY 2004, the regions should emphasize the revitalization aspects of all OSWER programs as a significant benefit of and rationale for site and property cleanups.

(3) Performance Priority: Homeland Security

Responding to small and large-scale disasters is one of EPA's traditional responsibilities. The Agency's crucial role in responding to the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, and the decontamination of anthrax at Capitol Hill, have further defined the nation's

expectations of EPA's emergency response capabilities. The Agency will continue to play a unique role in responding to and preparing for future terrorist incidents, which could possibly be more devastating in scale and nature than those of September 11, 2001, and could include bioterrorism or "dirty" bombs that affect the lives of millions of Americans and devastate the economy.

Performance Expectations for Regions: The FY 2004 budget provides additional resources for equipment, training, and establishment of a "Decontamination Team." We are facing FTE limitations, including a reduction of 55 FTE, from the level provided in the FY 2002 Counter-Terrorism Supplemental. OSWER Headquarters will work with the Regions and OCFO to address this shortfall. At the same time we face this challenge, we must continue to improve our readiness and response capabilities. The FY 2004 budget makes a commitment to establish a baseline for Agency preparedness in FY 2003, and formally report on that measure in FY 2004. Also, the Agency is striving to establish and maintain the capability to respond to simultaneous large-scale incidents, although, the resources in FY 2004 may not support the goal of responding to five such incidents as stated in the Agency's Homeland Security Strategic Plan.